

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A pipe coupling comprises a socket having a ball valve in which a through bore having one end that allows insertion of a plug is formed and a casing supporting the ball valve for rocking motion. The casing has a slot extending from its flank to the top. The slot has a flank opening and a top opening. The flank opening is wider than the top opening. A lock element is located for movement in the through bore of the ball valve. When the one end of the through bore of the ball valve is aligned with the flank opening, the lock element advances into the flank opening, thereby preventing the ball valve from rocking. When the lock element is pushed into the through bore of the ball valve by the plug, it is disengaged from the flank opening, whereupon the ball valve is allowed to rock.